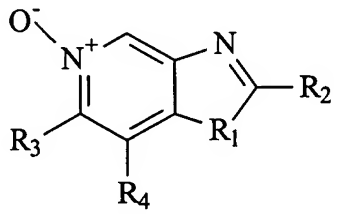
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-23 (canceled)

24 (original) A compound of the formula II:



(II)

wherein

$\mathbf{R_1}$ is selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and selenium;

$\mathbf{R_2}$ is selected from the group consisting of

-hydrogen;

-alkyl;

-alkyl-OH;

-haloalkyl;

-alkenyl;

-alkyl-X-alkyl;

-alkyl-X-alkenyl;

-alkenyl-X-alkyl;

-alkenyl-X-alkenyl;

-alkyl-$N(R_5)_2$;

-alkyl-N_3;

-alkyl-O-C(O)-$N(R_5)_2$;

-heterocyclyl;

-alkyl-X-heterocyclyl;

-alkenyl-X-heterocyclyl;

-aryl;

-alkyl-X-aryl;

-alkenyl-X-aryl;

-heteroaryl;

-alkyl-X-heteroaryl;

-alkenyl-X-heteroaryl;

$-SO_2CH_3$; and

$-CH_2-O-C(O)-CH_3$;

$\mathbf{R_3}$ and $\mathbf{R_4}$ are each independently:

-hydrogen;

-X-alkyl;

-halo;

-haloalkyl;

$-N(R_5)_2$;

or when taken together, $\mathbf{R_3}$ and $\mathbf{R_4}$ form a fused

aromatic, heteroaromatic, cycloalkyl or heterocyclic ring;

X is selected from the group consisting of –O–, –S–, $-NR_5-$, –C(O)–, –C(O)O–, and a bond; and

each $\mathbf{R_5}$ is independently H or C_{1-8}alkyl.

(original) A compound selected from the group consisting of:

2-methylthiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinoline-5N-oxide;

2-ethylthiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinoline-5N-oxide;

2-propylthiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinoline-5N-oxide;

2-pentylthiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinoline-5N-oxide;

2-butylthiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinoline-5N-oxide;

2-(1-methyethyl)thiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinoline-5N-oxide;

2-(2-phenyl-1-ethenyl)thiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinoline-5N-oxide;

2-phenylethylthiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinoline-5N-oxide;

2-methyl-1-thiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-2-yl-2-propanol-5N-oxide;

2-(ethoxymethyl)thiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinoline-5N-oxide;

2-(methoxymethyl)thiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinoline-5N-oxide;

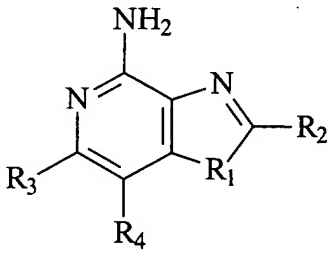
2-(2-methylpropyl)thiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinoline-5N-oxide;

2-benzylthiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinoline-5N-oxide;

8-methyl-2-propylthiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinoline-5N-oxide; and

2-butyloxazolo[4,5-*c*]quinoline-5N-oxide.

26 (new) A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in a mammal comprising administering a composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the formula I:



(I)

wherein:

$\mathbf{R_1}$ is selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and selenium;

$\mathbf{R_2}$ is selected from the group consisting of

-hydrogen;

-alkyl;

-alkyl-OH;

-haloalkyl;

-alkenyl;

-alkyl-X-alkyl;

-alkyl-X-alkenyl;

-alkenyl-X-alkyl;

-alkenyl-X-alkenyl;

-alkyl-$N(R_5)_2$;

-alkyl-N_3;

-alkyl-O-C(O)-$N(R_5)_2$;

-aryl;

-alkyl-X-aryl; and

-alkenyl-X-aryl;

$\mathbf{R_3}$ and $\mathbf{R_4}$ are taken together to form a fused heteroaromatic or heterocyclic ring;

X is selected from the group consisting of –O–, –S–, $-NR_5-$, –C(O)–, –C(O)O–, –OC(O)–, and a bond; and

each $\mathbf{R_5}$ is independently H or $C_{1\text{-}8}$alkyl; or

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, to the mammal.

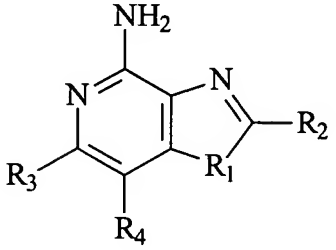
27 (new) The method of claim 26 wherein the cytokine comprises IFN-α.

28 (new) The method of claim 26 wherein the cytokine comprises TNF-α.

29 (new) The method of claim 26 wherein the composition is administered topically.

30 (new) The method of claim 26 wherein R_1 is sulfur.

31 (new) A method of treating a viral disease in a mammal comprising administering a composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the formula I:



(I)

wherein:

$\mathbf{R_1}$ is selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and selenium;

$\mathbf{R_2}$ is selected from the group consisting of

-hydrogen;

-alkyl;

-alkyl-OH;

-haloalkyl;

-alkenyl;

-alkyl-X-alkyl;

-alkyl-X-alkenyl;

-alkenyl-X-alkyl;

-alkenyl-X-alkenyl;

-alkyl-$N(R_5)_2$;

-alkyl-N_3;

-alkyl-O-C(O)-$N(R_5)_2$;

-aryl;

-alkyl-X-aryl; and

-alkenyl-X-aryl;

$\mathbf{R_3}$ and $\mathbf{R_4}$ are taken together to form a fused heteroaromatic or heterocyclic ring;

X is selected from the group consisting of –O–, –S–, –NR_5–, –C(O)–, –C(O)O–, –OC(O)–, and a bond; and

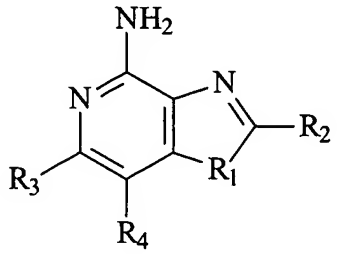
each $\mathbf{R_5}$ is independently H or $C_{1\text{-}8}$alkyl; or

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, to the mammal.

32 (new) The method of claim 31 wherein the composition is administered topically.

33 (new) The method of claim 31 wherein R_1 is sulfur.

34 (new) A method of treating a neoplastic disease in a mammal comprising administering a composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the formula I:



(I)

wherein:

$\mathbf{R_1}$ is selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and selenium;

$\mathbf{R_2}$ is selected from the group consisting of

-hydrogen;

-alkyl;

-alkyl-OH;

-haloalkyl;

-alkenyl;

-alkyl-X-alkyl;

-alkyl-X-alkenyl;

-alkenyl-X-alkyl;

-alkenyl-X-alkenyl;

-alkyl-$N(R_5)_2$;

-alkyl-N_3;

-alkyl-O-C(O)-$N(R_5)_2$;

-aryl;

-alkyl-X-aryl; and

-alkenyl-X-aryl;

$\mathbf{R_3}$ and $\mathbf{R_4}$ are taken together to form a fused heteroaromatic or heterocyclic ring;

X is selected from the group consisting of –O–, –S–, –NR_5–, –C(O)–, –C(O)O–, –OC(O)–, and a bond; and

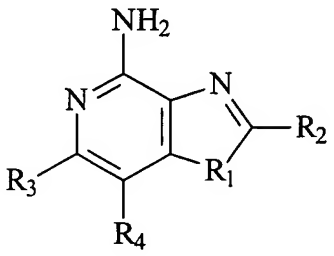
each $\mathbf{R_5}$ is independently H or C_{1-8} alkyl; or

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, to the mammal.

35 (new) The method of claim 34 wherein the composition is administered topically.

36 (new) The method of claim 34 wherein R_1 is sulfur.

37 (new) A compound of the formula I:



(I)

wherein:

$\mathbf{R_1}$ is selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and selenium;

$\mathbf{R_2}$ is selected from the group consisting of

-heterocyclyl;

-alkyl-X-heterocyclyl;

-alkenyl-X-heterocyclyl;

-heteroaryl;

-alkyl-X-heteroaryl; and

-alkenyl-X-heteroaryl;

$\mathbf{R_3}$ and $\mathbf{R_4}$ are taken together to form a fused heteroaromatic or heterocyclic ring;

X is selected from the group consisting of –O–, –S–, –NR_5–, –C(O)–, –C(O)O–, –OC(O)–, and a bond; and

each $\mathbf{R_5}$ is independently H or C_{1-8}alkyl; or

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

38 (new) A compound according to claim 37 wherein R_1 is oxygen or sulfur.

39 (new) A compound according to claim 37 wherein R_2 is heterocyclyl.

40 (new) A compound according to claim 37 wherein R_2 is selected from the group consisting of morpholinyl, piperidinyl, and pyrrolidinyl.

41 (new) A compound according to claim 37 wherein R_1 is sulfur.

42 (new) A compound according to claim 37 wherein R_3 and R_4 are taken together to form a substituted or unsubstituted pyridine ring.

43 (new) A compound according to claim 38 wherein R_3 and R_4 are taken together to form a substituted or unsubstituted pyridine ring.

44 (new) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 37 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

45 (new) A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in a mammal comprising administering a composition of claim 44 to the mammal.

46 (new) The method of claim 45 wherein the cytokine comprises IFN-α.

47 (new) The method of claim 45 wherein the cytokine comprises TNF-α.

48 (new) The method of claim 45 wherein the composition is administered topically.

49 (new) The method of claim 45 wherein R_1 is sulfur.

50 (new) A method of treating a viral disease in a mammal comprising administering a composition of claim 44 to the mammal.

51 (new) The method of claim 50 wherein the composition is administered topically.

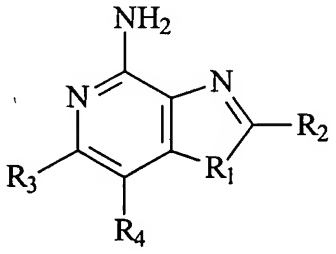
52 (new) The method of claim 50 wherein R_1 is sulfur.

53 (new) A method of treating a neoplastic disease in a mammal comprising administering a composition of claim 44 to the mammal.

54 (new) The method of claim 53 wherein the composition is administered topically.

55 (new) The method of claim 53 wherein R_1 is sulfur.

56 (new) A compound of the formula I:



(I)

wherein:

R_1 is selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and selenium;

R_2 is selected from the group consisting of

-hydrogen;

-alkyl;

-alkyl-OH;

-haloalkyl;

-alkenyl;

-alkyl-X-alkyl;

-alkyl-X-alkenyl;

-alkenyl-X-alkyl;

-alkenyl-X-alkenyl;

-alkyl-$N(R_5)_2$;

-alkyl-N_3;

-alkyl-O-C(O)-$N(R_5)_2$;

-heterocyclyl;

-alkyl-X-heterocyclyl;

-alkenyl-X-heterocyclyl;

-aryl;

-alkyl-X-aryl;

-alkenyl-X-aryl;

-heteroaryl;

-alkyl-X-heteroaryl; and

-alkenyl-X-heteroaryl;

$\mathbf{R_3}$ and $\mathbf{R_4}$ are taken together to form a fused cycloalkyl ring;

X is selected from the group consisting of –O–, –S–, –NR_5–, –C(O)–, –C(O)O–, –OC(O)–, and a bond; and

each $\mathbf{R_5}$ is independently H or C_{1-8} alkyl; or

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

57 (new) A compound according to claim 56 wherein R_1 is oxygen or sulfur.

58 (new) A compound according to claim 56 wherein R_2 is C_{1-4} alkyl.

59 (new) A compound according to claim 57 wherein R_2 is C_{1-4} alkyl.

60 (new) A compound according to claim 56 wherein R_1 is sulfur.

61 (new) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 56 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

62 (new) A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in a mammal comprising administering a composition of claim 61to the mammal.

63 (new) The method of claim 62 wherein the cytokine comprises IFN-α.

64 (new) The method of claim 62 wherein the cytokine comprises TNF-α.

65 (new) The method of claim 62 wherein the composition is administered topically.

66 (new) The method of claim 62 wherein R_1 is sulfur.

67 (new) A method of treating a viral disease in a mammal comprising administering a composition of claim 61 to the mammal.

68 (new) The method of claim 67 wherein the composition is administered topically.

69 (new) The method of claim 67 wherein R_1 is sulfur.

70 (new) A method of treating a neoplastic disease in a mammal comprising administering a composition of claim 61 to the mammal.

71 (new) The method of claim 70 wherein the composition is administered topically.

72 (new) The method of claim 70 wherein R_1 is sulfur.